

Primary Schools follow Parish and School Programmes in preparation for these Sacraments. If your child attends other schools and your family are Parishioners and wish to avail of these Sacraments please contact Fr. White or Fr. O'Dwyer to register.

Sign-Up Sunday: 26th/27th September - Parish based societies/groups/organisations should use this weekend to promote and recruit new members. Meeting for all groups interested are invited to a short meeting (10 minutes) in St. John's meeting room on Wednesday 23rd after evening Mass. Perhaps every Parish group could send 1 - 2 members. The Hilliard Ensemble perform "Arkangelos" on 1st October in St. Patrick's Church, Dundalk. Ticket 15Euro - tel 08708502896.

Evangelium: the modular course based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church resumes on Friday 25th September at 7.30 p.m. in the Meeting Room, St. John the Baptist Church. The topic on that date is 'Baptism and Confirmation' and preparatory reading could include questions 251 - 270 of the Compendium. All are welcome. Further information available on notice boards and parish website.

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES IN DAILY LIFE: a mixed Church group of 6 - 8 people facilitated by Fr. Michael Bingham - fortnightly meetings for an hour or so from October to May following a process of prayer, learning to discern where God is present, acting and inviting us in our daily lives. If you think this programme may be what you are looking for, please pick up a leaflet from the sacristy or porch or contact Fr. Michael at 38330366 or michael_bingham1@btinternet.com

1st October - Feast of St. Theresa shall be celebrated in St. Malachy's Church, Armagh, 7.30 p.m.. Relic of St. Theresa will be present for blessing, also blessing of the Roses.

Fr. Brian Lennon S.J. will deliver a talk on Forgiveness, the title of his recently published book, in St. John the Baptist P.S. on Thursday 1st October at 7.30 p.m. All welcome.

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Offertory Collection - Sunday 13th

Â£2572-62

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GATE - Youth Magazine available in Churches - Â£1-50.

Requiescant In Pace

Lately deceased: Margaret Marley, Margaret Murray, Mary Maguinness, Vona Lynch, Elizabeth Donaghy, Fr. Kevin Devine, Anna Fowler, Georgina Larkin

At This Time: Sarah McConnell

Sunday 20th: Kent Bonderup(1st Anniversary), Elizabeth Brady, Margaret Thomas, Patrick Fox, Barney Murphy, Hugh Murphy, Malachy Russell, Sean Reilly, Jane McNally, Frances M. Caldwell

Monday 21st: Frank McCoy(1st Anniversary), Teresa Smith(1st Anniversary), Nellie Murphy, James Mallon, Seamus Brown, Martin Smyth, Bobby Tiffney, James Judge, Eddie Foy, Shauna Quinn, Mary Hamill, Thomas McCooe

Tuesday 22nd: M.M. Nathan Creaney, Dermot Foy, Patrick Foy, Margaret McGrane

Wednesday 23rd: Jim Monaghan Thursday 24th: M.M. Eileen Skelton, Joey Brennan(1st Anniversary), Bernard McNally, Sarah Heyburn, Sr. M. Angela Greene, Bridget Boyle, Mary McCann, Rosanne Crawley Friday 25th: James McCann, Mona McKeown, Joseph Desmond Caldwell, Bernadette McEvoy, Gerald McIlkenny, Edith Woolsey, Gary Lynn, Margaret Litter, Margaret McConville

Saturday 26th: M.M. Kathleen Murphy, Mary Molloy, John Gorman

Anniversaries late for bulletin should be left in the Sacristy for inclusion on the proper day.

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When submitting notices for the bulletin please include a contact name and telephone number.

Notices and anniversaries should be left in by the Wednesday prior to publication.

If we want to be great we must serve others. How can you best serve others? You can make a difference with your life. Contact Fr. Paddy Rushe 00353 42 93 34259.

Marriage Encounter Weekend 9th / 11th October at Emmaus Conference Centre, Swords, Co. Dublin.

St. Vincent De Paul Society

Clothes shop, tel. 38393898 or Furniture shop tel. 38394219, in Mayfair Business Centre, Garvaghy Road. Opening hours Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. NEW SELF HELP LINE - 38339639. Response within 48 hours.

The Presentation Sisters Koinonia Project - Meditation Monday 14th September 7.30 p.m., T'ai Chi Chih classes Wednesday 16th September 7.30 p.m. or Thursday 17th September at 11 a.m. For details please call 38332220 or e-mail brigidkavanagh@btinternet.com

Servite Priory - Benburb:Â Forthcoming event: Wednesday 30th September.Â An Evening with Sr. Joyce Rupp O.S.M.Â at 7.30 p.m.Â Thursday 1st October.Â A Day with Joyce Rupp.Â at 10 a.m.

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ACCORD Marriage Preparation Courses: in Armagh City

Hotel on 4th/11th/18th November; in Cohannon Inn on 8th/15th/22nd September and 6th/13th/20th Oct and 3rd/10th/17th Nov.Â To book contact ACCORD Office at 38334781.

St. Malachy's Indoor Bowling Club:Â Practice for the new season Thursday 7.30 p.m. in Ashgrove Community Centre.Â New members welcome.

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Feasts:Â Monday 21st St. Matthew;Â Wednesday 23rd St. Pius of Pietrelcine (Padre Pio), St. Eunan;Â Friday 25th St. Finbarr; Â

Saturday 26th Ss. Cosmas and Damian.

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Ann and Liz invite you to Macmillan Cancer Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September in Ashgrove Community Centre, 9.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.Â All welcome. Â

Bannside Development Centre: Bannside Scribblers

Mondays 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.Â Arts and Crafts Classes from 7 - 8.30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.Â English classes Thursday 10 a.m.Â I.C.T. for beginners. Homework club resumes Monday 7th September 3.15 - 4.30 p.m.Â Positive Mental Health & Wellbeing Classes starting September: limited places, enrol early. Phone 38339916.

Cumann Seanchais Ard Mhacha:Â lecture on Wednesday 23rd September at 8 p.m. in O'Fiaich Library, Armagh, by Professor Brendan Smith of Bristol University "Continuity and change in Medieval South Ulster". Â

Drumcree College - Basketball - P7 - 1st & 2nd years every Wednesday from 3.30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Adult fitness classes Wednesdays 7.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.Â For more information contact the school 38334725.Â Â

Churchill & Ballyoran Estates Community Association Annual General Meeting in Drumcree Community Centre Wednesday 30th September at 7.30 p.m.Â Everyone welcome.

National Religious Education Congress, 2nd - 4th October in Fairways Hotel, Dundalk - for families, schools, parish groups and all those interested in religious education and catechetical formation.Â Speakers include Fr. Timothy Radcliffe OP, Fr. Peter McVerry SJ, Rev. Ruth Patterson.Â Theme of Congress is "Between Memory and Hope".Â Information from National Catechetical Office, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth or Rev. Oliver Brennan, Blackrock, Dundalk.

CU Factor Singing Competition:Â The Credit Unions in N. Ireland have organised an X Factor style singing competition for 12 - 19 year olds.Â The overall winner will receive Â£1000.Â There are 16 heats throughout the province.Â Application forms are available in local credit unions or online at www.cufactor.com and the closing date for return of completed application forms is Saturday 26th September.

SPRED - the group resumes on Wednesday 23rd September in Drumcree Community Centre at 7.30 p.m.Â Enquiries phone 38392568.

St. John's Scouts:Â The group starts back on Monday 28th September at Drumcree College.Â Beavers, Cubs, Scouts all from 7 - 8.30 p.m.Â New members welcome.Â Anyone interested in becoming a Leader, please contact any of the current Leaders.

Oran Fold:Â 1 bedroom self contained apartments available.Â To view please contact the co-ordinator Michelle Finlay on 38391918.

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Reflection

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To be first with God

To be first is a desire in many of us;
first in class,
first in sport,
the favourite in the family,
the favourite in the class;
to be thought highly of,
to be acclaimed.

And that was the way with the disciples

when they argued
about which of them was the greatest.

Maybe they argued about who was Jesus' favourite,
or who was the leader of the group,
or wanted to be seen as the closest to him
by those who looked up to Jesus.

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We like honour and praise,
we like prestige and to be looked up to,
but the eyes of Jesus fell on a child
when he wanted to say something
about who was the greatest.

When they all wondered
how to be popular in the eyes of God,
Jesus took a little child,
and told us that when you welcome a child,
you welcome God.

To be first in the eyes of God
is to be first in service,
for the son of man came
not to be served but to serve.